



6



LANZING
KELLY
DUNBAR
BEREDO

BATMAN

BEYOND

NEO-ETHIC



13+
TEEN

HE'S GOT EVERYTHING HE EVER WANTED.
NOW HE WANTS MORE.

KNEEL BEFORE ZOD

© &™ DC.

WRITTEN BY
**JOE
CASEY**

ART BY
**DAN
McDARIO**

COVER BY
**JASON
SHAWN
ALEXANDER**



THE MOST BRUTAL
NEW SERIES
OF THE YEAR
STARTS IN
JANUARY



"THIS IS SPINNER Z91 TO DISPATCH--O'NEILL PLAZA IS **OVERRUN!**"



"THE LUMOS DISTRICT IS GLITCHING!
WE'VE GOT PEOPLE **FALLING FROM THE SKY!**"



"COMMISSIONER, THE NATIONAL GUARD IS MOBILIZING BUT OUR PROJECTIONS ARE **GRIM.**"



"WE'VE ONLY GOT **ONE** CHOICE.



"**LIGHT THE SIGNAL.**"



"MOM, CAN YOU HEAR ME? I LOVE YOU. I JUST NEED YOU TO KNOW I LOVE--"



"I DON'T CARE IF THE *SKY IS FALLING*, MS. YUKUMA--THERE'S WORK TO BE--"



"THIS IS BATMAN'S PROBLEM! *SO WHERE THE HELL IS HE?!*"





"SAVE US,
BATMAN."

"PLEASE."



"YOU'RE THE *ONLY ONE* WHO *CAN*."



DC COMICS
Proudly Presents
BATMAN
BEYOND
NEO-GOTHIC

Chapter 6:

JUST ONE MAN

BATMAN created by
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GROUP EDITOR

JOHN!
YOU ABSOLUTE
TOSSER!

YOU
HAVE TO
STOP THIS!
NOW!



I CAME
ALL THE WAY
DOWN INTO THIS
GREEN HELL TO GIVE
YOU BACK YOUR
DAMNED CURSES
AND THAT'S EXACTLY
WHAT WE'RE
GOING TO DO!

NOW
STOP THIS
\$#@% AND
TAKE YOUR
DAMN
MEDICINE!



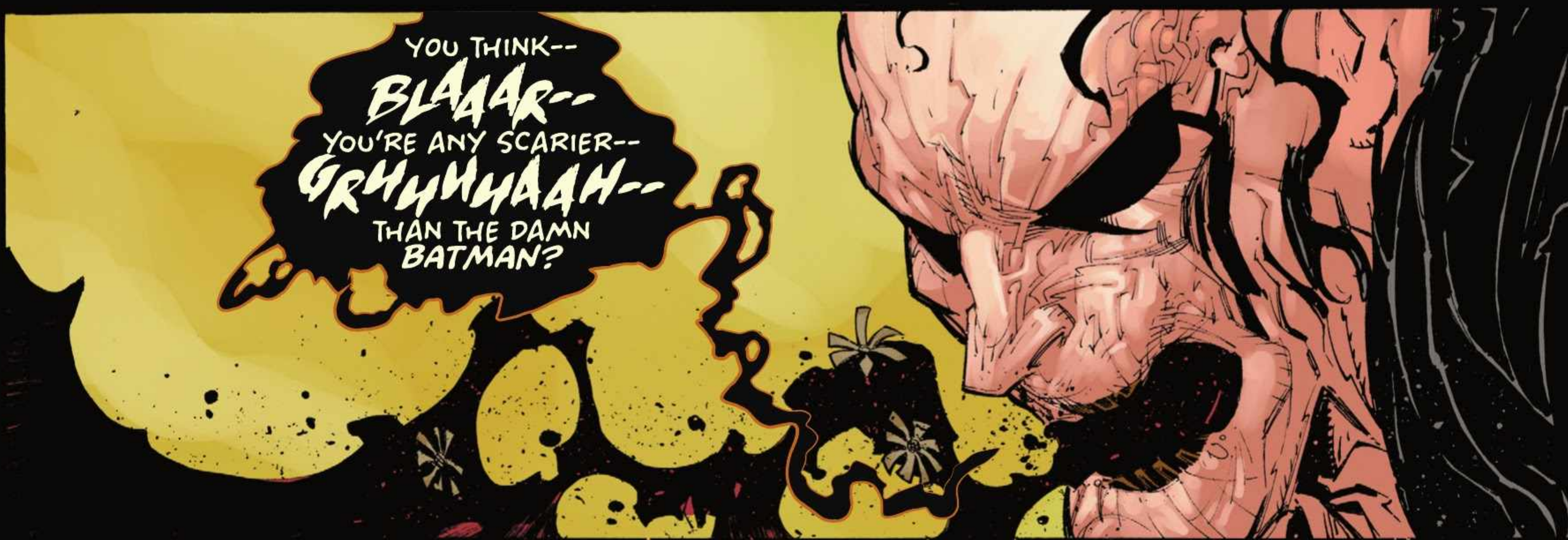
I THINK NOT, SQUIRE.

NO! #@\$%
YOU!
NONE
OF THAT!



JOHN CONSTANTINE,
YOU SPEAK TO ME
WITH YOUR SLAGGING
MOUTH, OR I'LL PUT
MY FIST RIGHT
THROUGH IT.





YOU THINK--
BLAAR--
YOU'RE ANY SCARIER--
GRUUHHAH--
THAN THE DAMN
BATMAN?



MY KINGDOM
IS ALMOST
COMPLETE.
A PLACE OF
SAFETY FOR THE
INNOCENT.
FOREVER.

NOT
ONE MORE
SCAR.



JUST
LOOK.
IT'S
GONNA BE
BEAUTIFUL,
KID.



"A WORLD OF HONESTY.
NOT A HINT OF DECEPTION."

"JUST THAT WHICH GROWS
GREEN AND THAT WHICH ROTS."

"UNITED. NO LIES TO TEAR US APART.
NO SECRETS TO KEEP US DISTANT."

"EVERYTHING I WASN'T...
I'LL MAKE THE WORLD."

"AND THE CHILDREN
WILL THANK ME."

BATMAN
TO CAVE.

PATCH
ME TO BEAM.

WE
NEED A DAMN
PLAN.



BATMAN. GOOD TO HEAR YOUR VOICE. GUESSING YOU FOUND THOSE KIDS, HUH?

FOUND A **TERATON** MORE THAN THAT. I'M HOPING THERE'S A SOLUTION COMING FROM THE **SOURCE**, BUT IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE TO SAVE THE CITY. AND I'M NOT ENOUGH.

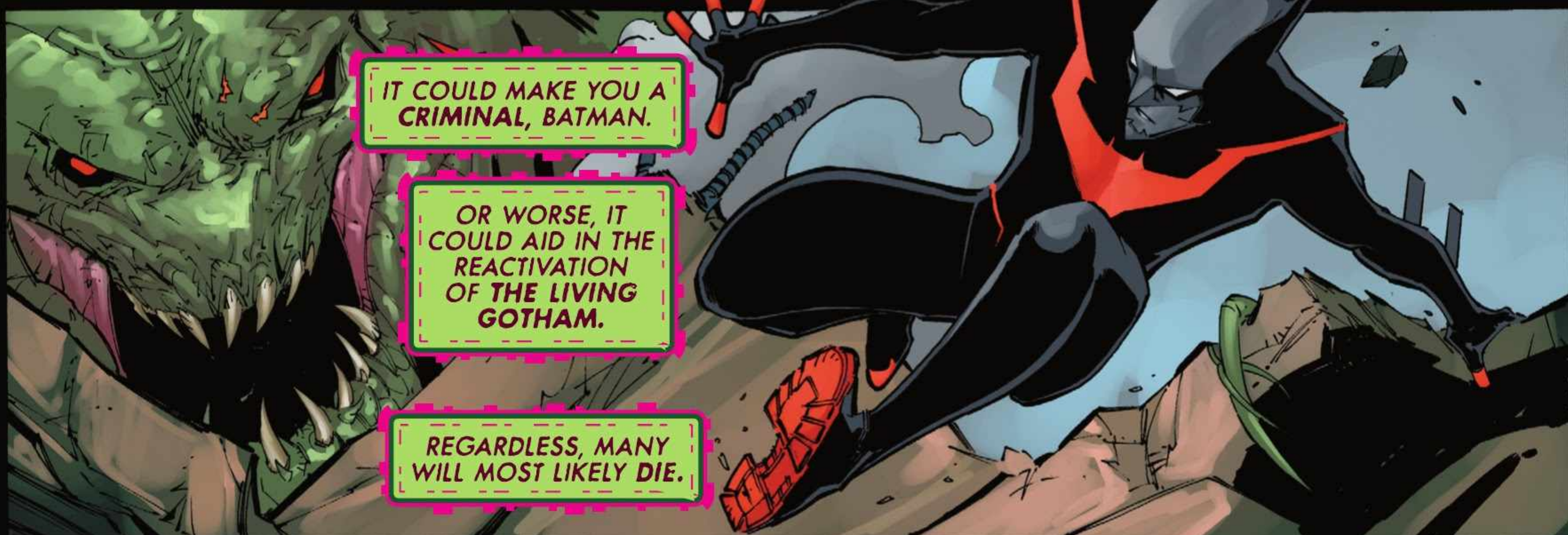
NEITHER IS MY SERVICE PISTOL, IF YOU CAN BELIEVE IT. DON'T SUPPOSE THE JOKERZ ARE ANSWERING OUR CALLS THESE DAYS?

NO, BUT THAT WHICH THEY INSPIRED MIGHT BE OUR ANSWER.

WE KNOW YOU BOTH WISHED TO WAIT FOR APPROVAL BEFORE DEPLOYING THE GORDON INITIATIVE.

AND YOU FEARED THE LEGAL WRATH OF DONOVAN LUMOS.

BUT NEITHER SEEMS GERMANE ANY LONGER. AND HIS SYSTEMS FROM THE LIVING GOTHAM'S ATTEMPT TO CONTROL THE POPULATION REMAIN AT OUR DISPOSAL.



IT COULD MAKE YOU A **CRIMINAL**, BATMAN.

OR WORSE, IT COULD AID IN THE REACTIVATION OF THE **LIVING GOTHAM**.

REGARDLESS, MANY WILL MOST LIKELY DIE.



I DON'T SEE WHAT CHOICE WE'VE **GOT**, GESTALT.

IF BATMAN'S JUST ONE MAN, THIS CITY GOES DOWN IN A MATTER OF HOURS. BUT WE'RE GIVING PEOPLE A **LOT** OF POWER IF WE DO THIS.

THAT'S A **LOT** OF TRUST.

...
GESTALT. GET IT DONE. BUT OPEN A CHANNEL.

TRUST IS GOING TO HAVE TO GO BOTH **WAYS**.



JOHN.

WHEN YOU FOUND ME...
I WAS NOTHING BUT AFRAID.

I WAS THIS WEIRD LITTLE **SCIENCE EXPERIMENT**, NOT A PLACE IN THE WORLD FOR ME TO GO WHERE I BELONGED EXCEPT A GANG THAT ONLY WANTED ME IF I'D JUMP INNOCENT PEOPLE FOR FOOD MONEY.



IT WAS A LIFE OF FEAR.



AND **YOU** GAVE ME A LIFE OF **MAGIC**.



BUT IT TURNED MY **SOUL TO ASH**.



LOOK AROUND YOU, JOHN. DON'T YOU SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

THE SAME THING. ALL OVER AGAIN. TO HUNDREDS OF KIDS. AND EXPECTING, WHAT? THAT IT'LL WORK OUT BETTER **THIS TIME**?



THAT'S THE DEFINITION OF **INSANITY**.

LESSON
THE FIRST,
JOHN.

YOU'RE
NOT INSANE.
YOU'RE
GUILTY.

YOU ACTUALLY LEARNED TO
CARE FOR THE LITTLE TRASH
CAT THAT EVERYONE KICKED
INTO THE GOTHAM NIGHT, EVEN
THOUGH YOU THOUGHT YOUR
HEART WAS MADE OF
CIGARETTE TAR.

TOOK YOU
BY SURPRISE
THAT IT **WASN'T**.
AND YOUR ESCAPE
HATCH WASN'T AN
ESCAPE.

CUZ LESSON THE
SECOND?

YOU'RE **NOT** DEAD. YOU
CHOSE THIS, THIS UN-LIFE.
AND YOUR GUILT HAS TURNED
IT ALL SOUR.

YOU'RE NOT
PROTECTING ANYONE.
YOU'RE JUST **HURTING**
EVERYONE YOU CAN.
HEAR THE SCREAMS
OF THE CHILDREN WHO
AREN'T LOCKED
DOWN HERE IN YOUR
LITTLE BUNKER.

SO NOW YOU THINK
THE ONLY MOVE LEFT
IS TO BE THE COWARD
EVERYONE THINKS
YOU ARE.

BUT
HERE'S
THE **LAST**
LESSON,
JOHN.

THE
THING THAT'S
WORSE THAN
DEATH...

...IS LIVING
WITHOUT
FORGIVENESS.

JOHN
CONSTANTINE.

I
FORGIVE
YOU.



NEO-GOTHAM.

THIS IS BATMAN.

I NEED YOUR HELP.



ALL ACROSS GOTHAM, THE ROOTS OF THE CITY-THAT-WAS ARE RIPPING DOWN THE CITY-THAT-IS. EVERY-THING WE BURIED IS HERE TO BURY US.

AND THERE IS ONLY ONE BATMAN TO STOP IT.



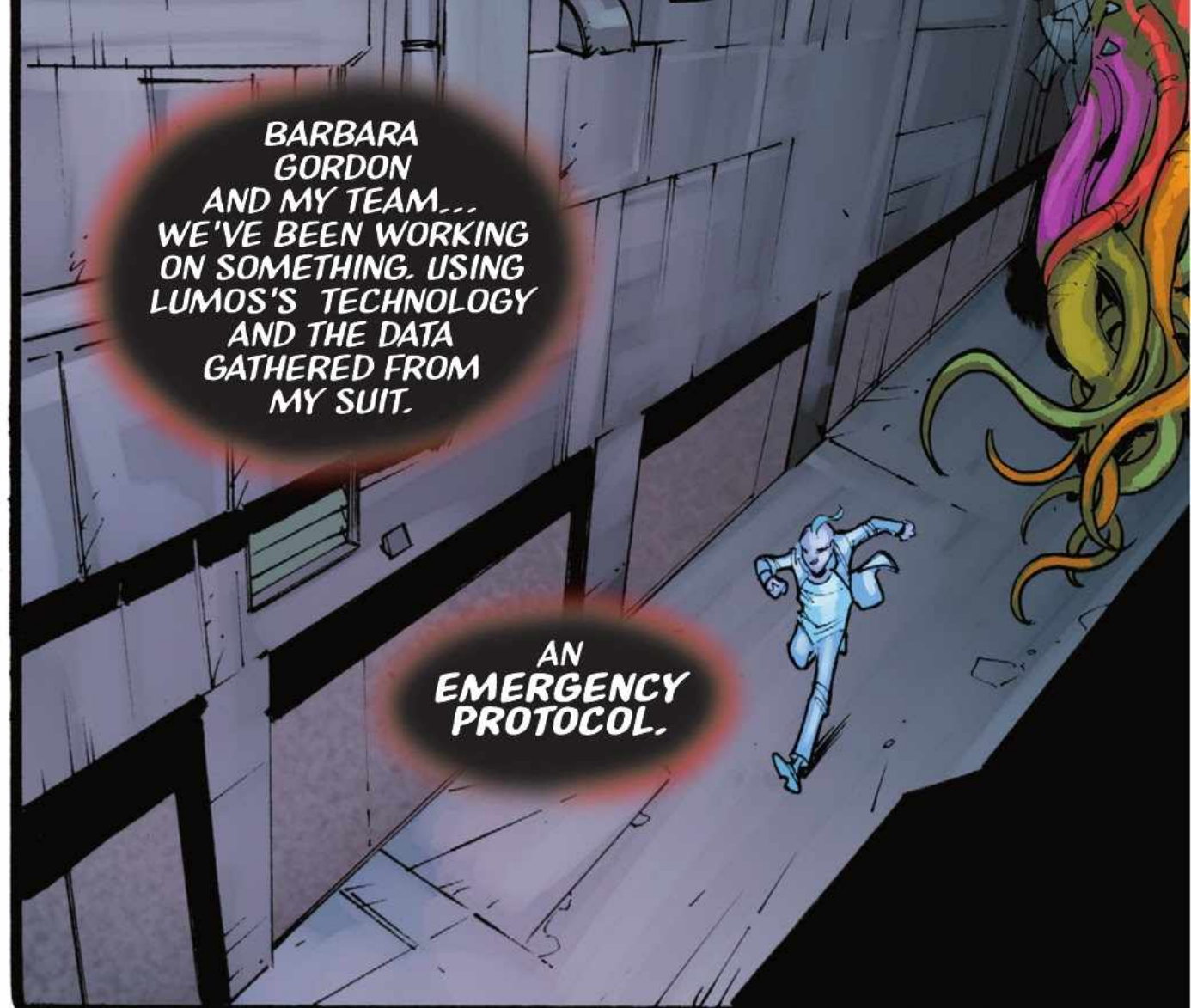
BUT THERE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE.



LAST YEAR, WE ALL FACED A THREAT THAT COULD TURN US INTO LIVING WEAPONS.

HOLOGRAPHIC TECH, LIVING IN OUR BLOODSTREAMS. MEANT TO CONTROL.

THOSE NANITES HAVE BEEN DORMANT SINCE WE SAUT THAT DOWN TOGETHER.



BARBARA GORDON AND MY TEAM... WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON SOMETHING. USING LUMOS'S TECHNOLOGY AND THE DATA GATHERED FROM MY SUIT.

AN EMERGENCY PROTOCOL.



"THE GORDON INITIATIVE."



IT MIGHT GIVE US A FIGHTING CHANCE.

BUT YOU HAVE TO OPT IN.



I'M ASKING YOU TO TRUST ME.



MY NAME IS TERRY MCGINNIS.

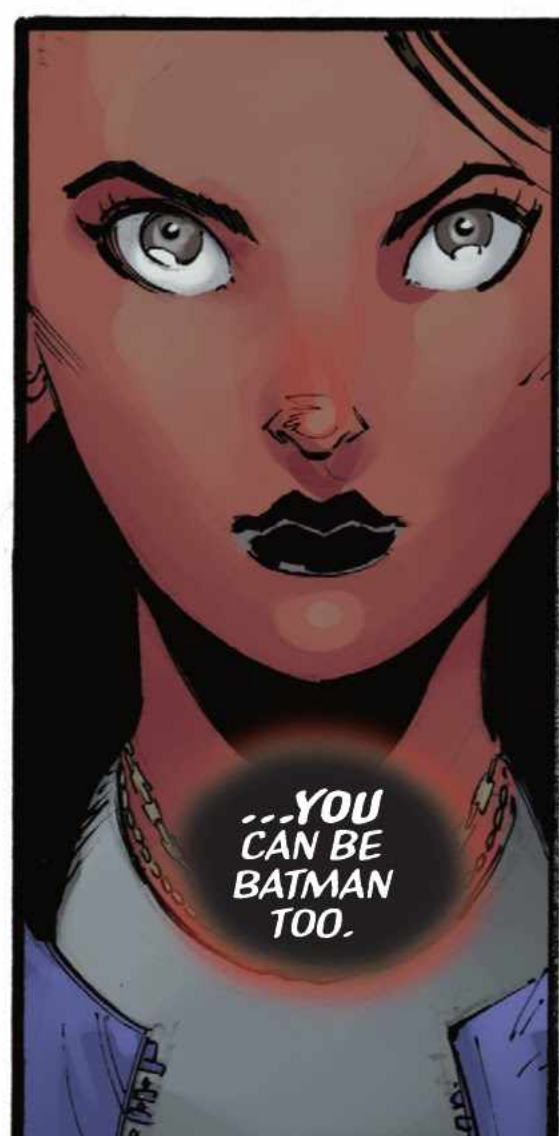
I WAS BORN IN CROWN POINT. I WAS A JUVENILE DELINQUENT. AND THEN, I PUT ON THE COWL.



IF I CAN DO IT, SO CAN YOU.



IF YOU'RE WILLING TO SAVE THIS CITY... IF YOU JUST THINK IT...



...YOU CAN BE BATMAN TOO.



YES.



YES.



SO SCHWAY.





DIDN'T...
WANT...
TO BE
FORGIVEN.

I'M AS
BAD AS THE
WORLD
GETS.

TOUGH.



SORRY,
MAN.

YOU'RE JUST
A SAD OLD MAN
WHO MADE SOME
MISTAKES.

URNS
OUT, WE CAN
GET ALONG
JUST FINE
WITHOUT
YA.

...IS THAT
RIGHT?



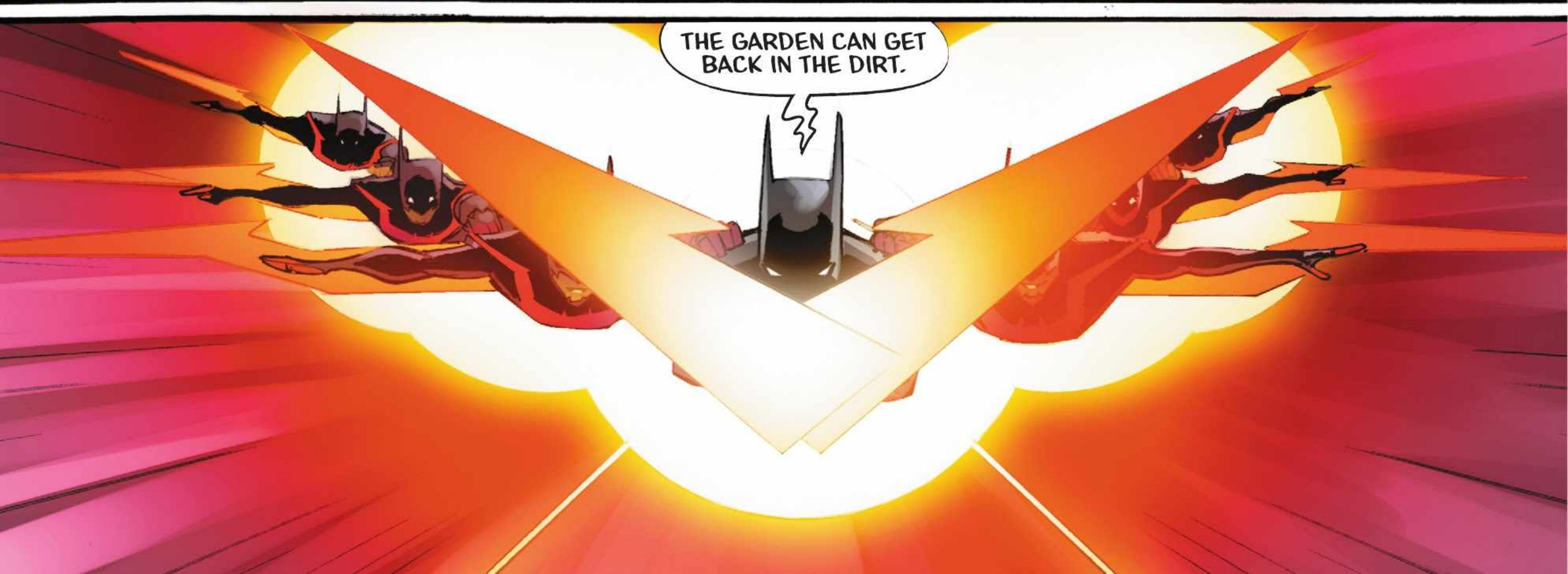
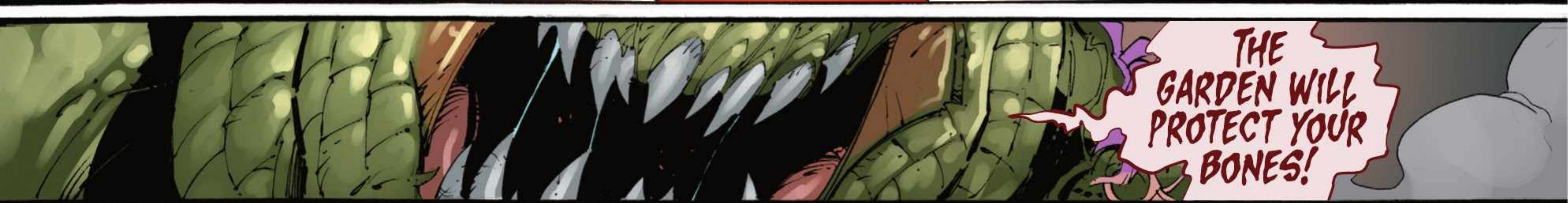
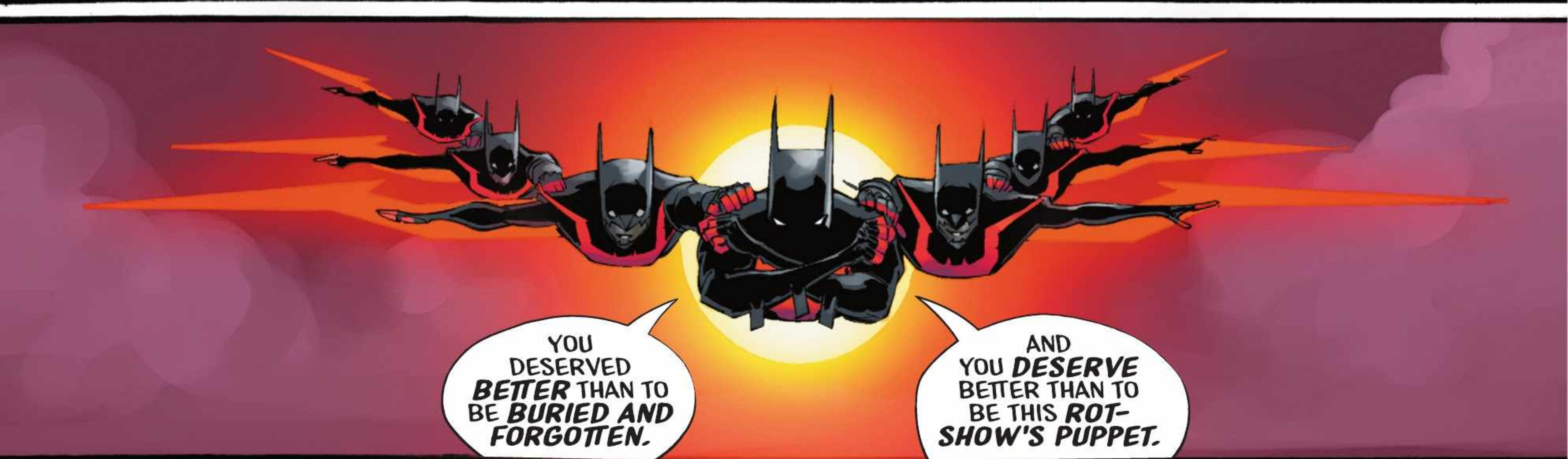
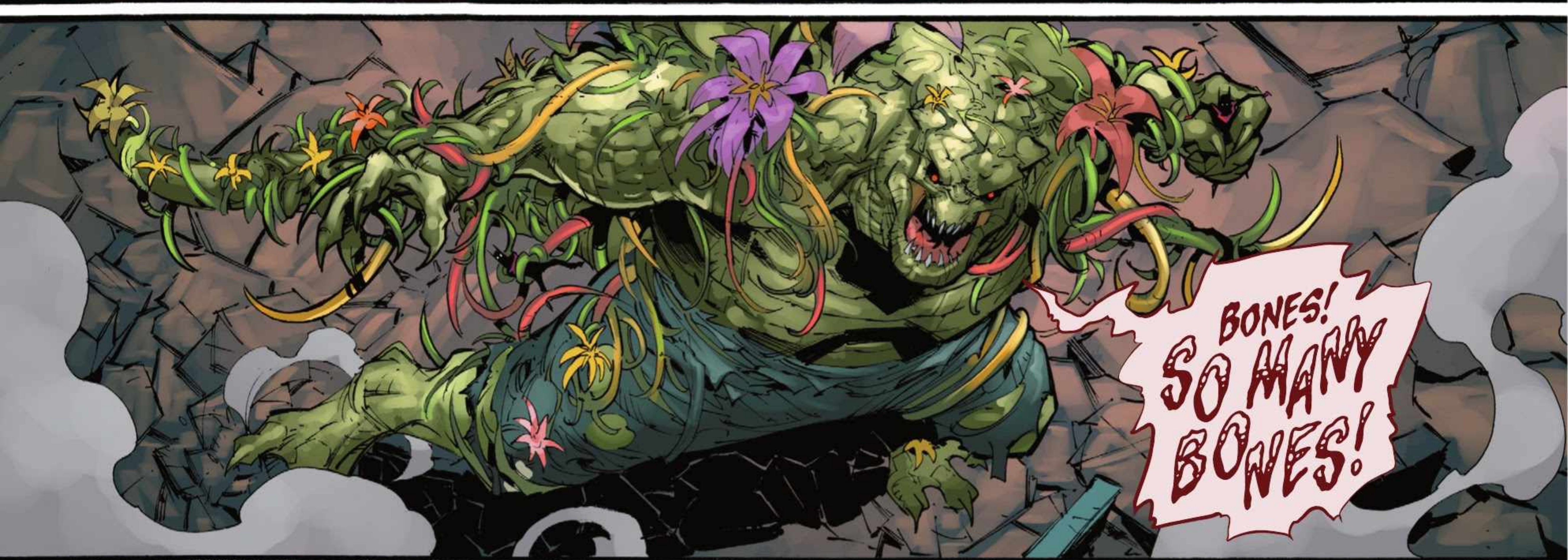
WELL,
I GUESS IT
DEPENDS.



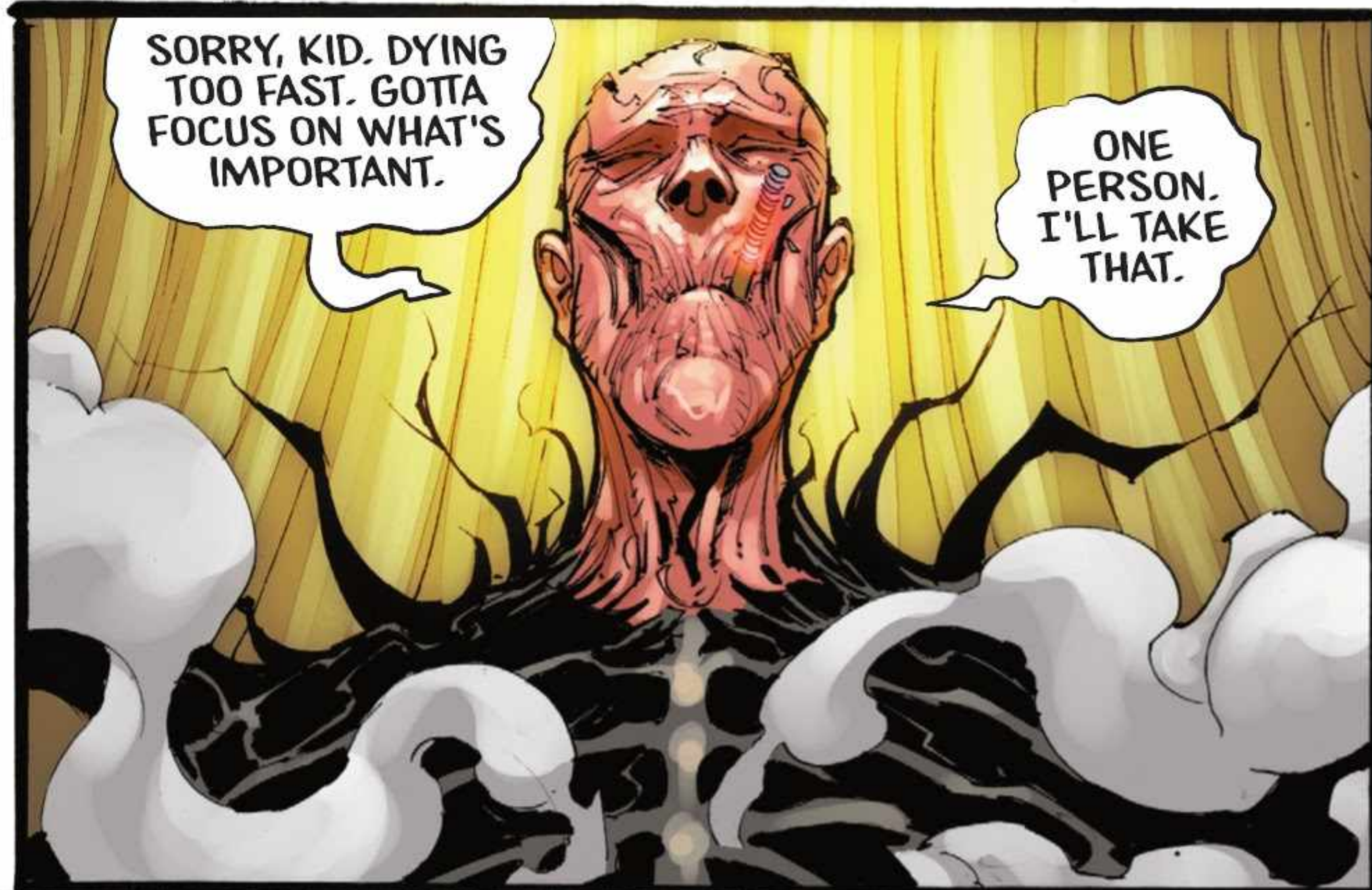
ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP HAVING THIS
TANTRUM? OR ARE YOU GOING TO SOD
OFF, FINALLY, AND TRUST THAT YOU LEFT
THE WORLD **JUST A LITTLE BIT**
BETTER THAN YOU FOUND IT?



A
LITTLE
BIT,
EH?











"ARE YOU GOING TO BE OKAY?"

"PRETTY LOADED QUESTION, TOPSIDE."



"WILL I BE OKAY **OUT ON THE STREETS?** YEAH. I **THINK** I'VE GOT SOME IDEAS OF HOW I CAN STAY OUT OF TROUBLE."

"YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M ASKING ABOUT."



HE WAS A \$@&%#, COMPLETELY. BUT IN THE END... HE MEW IT.

JUST BECAUSE YOU HURT THE ONES WHO LOVE YOU... DOESN'T MEAN YOU'VE BROKEN THEIR HEARTS FOREVER.



"\$@&%# DESERVE LOVE TOO, YOU KNOW?"



YEAH.

I GUESS THEY DO.



--AND OF COURSE, THERE IS NO ONE WHO KNOWS THIS **TERRY MCGINNIS** BETTER THAN HIS PARTNER AT THE GORDON INITIATIVE...

...FORMER GOTHAM CITY PD OFFICER AND CURRENT COMMUNITY LEADER **BEAM BOONMA**.



MYSELF, **TERRY**, AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE INITIATIVE ARE ALL ABOUT ONE THING: **UNITING FAMILIES** IN THE WAKE OF THE TRAGEDY. WE ARE WORKING TIRELESSLY TO BRING HOME THE CHILDREN WHO WERE LOST, AS WELL AS HELP **REHOUSE** THOSE WHO'VE BEEN DISPLACED BY THE OVERGROWTH EVENT.



"AND THE CRITICISMS? THAT YOU'RE UTILIZING A CITYWIDE CRISIS EVENT TO YOKE THE POPULATION TO UNTESTED TECHNOLOGY?"



"THERE IS NO **YOKE**. EVERYONE DESERVES THE RIGHT TO THEIR OWN HEAD, AND THEY HAVE IT. UNEQUIVOCALLY.



"ALL WE OFFER IS THE CHANCE TO HELP THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU.



"EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE A CHANCE TO BE A **HERO**."



SOUNDS LIKE A **CAMPAIGN SLOGAN** TO ME. WITH THE MAYORAL RACE ON THE HORIZON, I'M SURE THE PEOPLE WOULD WANT TO KNOW...

"...HAS BEAM BOONMA PUT ON HER RUNNING SHOES?"

I SAW THE INTERVIEW.

I **HATED** THE INTERVIEW.

YOU HID YOUR CONTEMPT WITH SKILL.

OH, SEE, NOW I **KNOW** YOU'RE LYING.



ANYTHING ON LUMOS?
AT ALL?

GONE.
AND HE LEFT **EVERYTHING**.
MONEY. DEEDS.
EMAILS.

...THAT'S
ONE SCARED
MAN.

OR A
CORNERED
ONE.



COME ON,
GET CHANGED.
WE HAVE A
DINNER.

WE HAVE
A DINNER?

BARBARA CALLED.
SHE ALSO SAW THE
INTERVIEW.

WE HAVE A
DINNER.



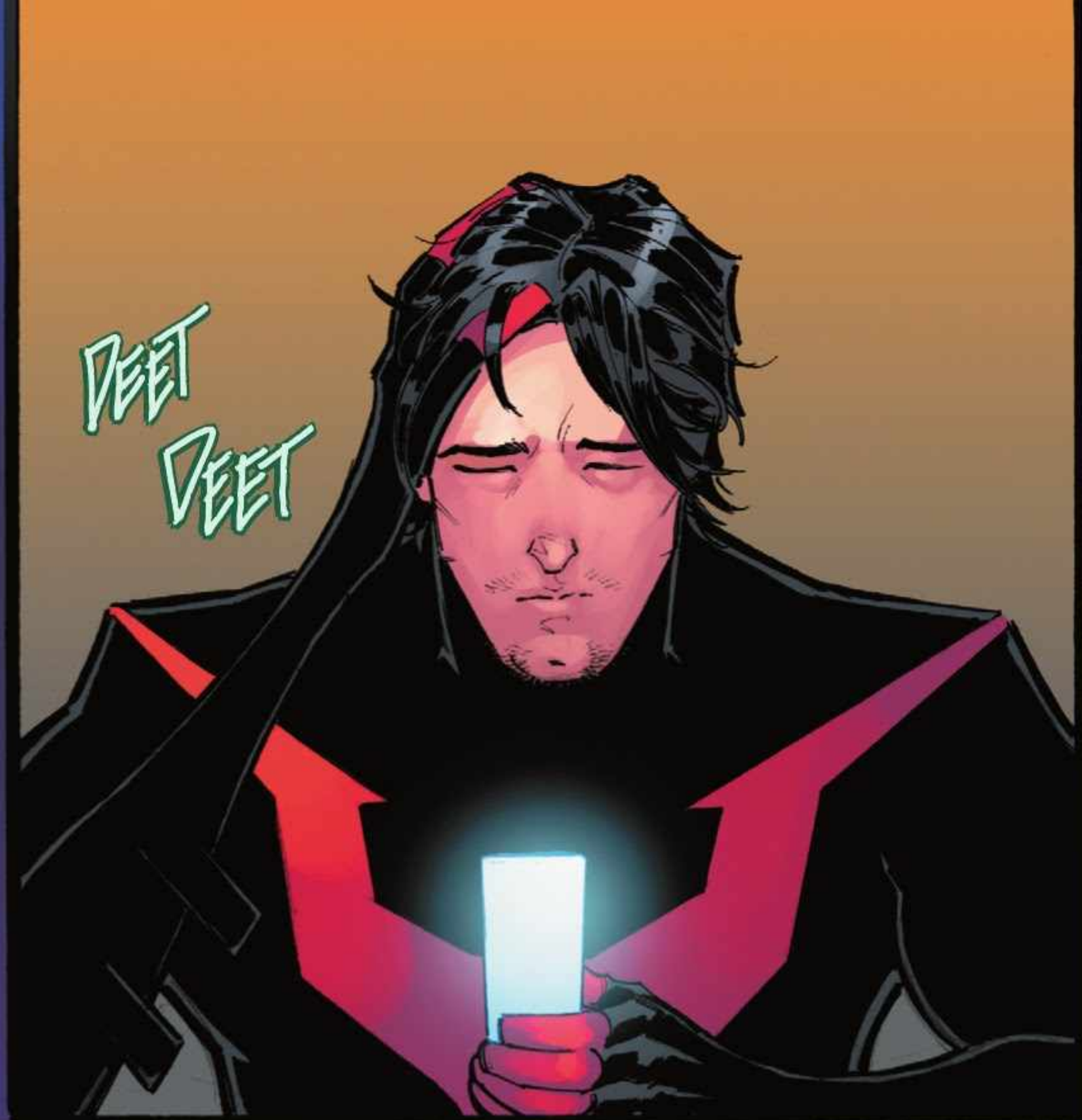
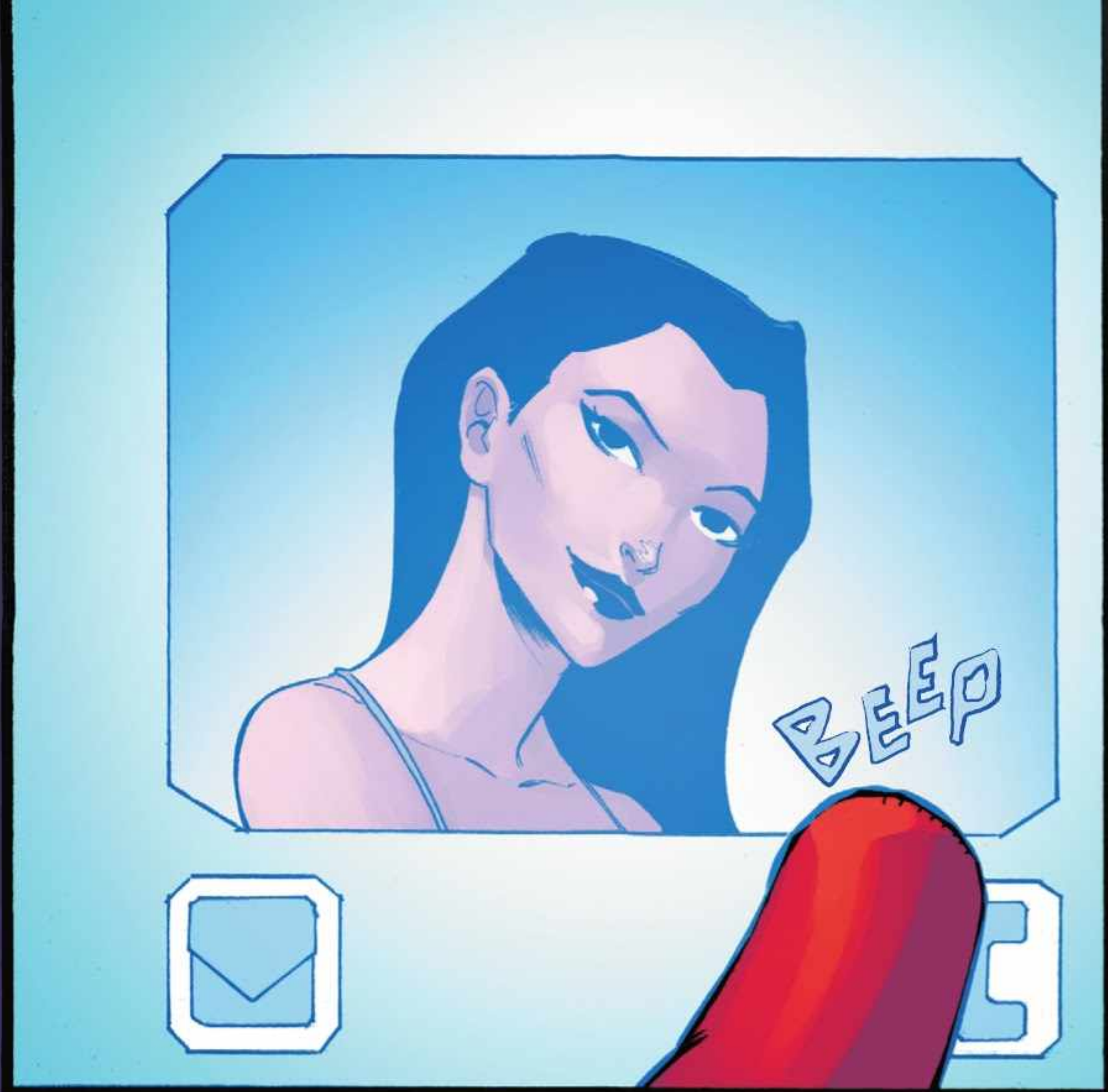
I'M GOING TO...
NEED A MINUTE.
IS THAT ALL
RIGHT?

TAKE
THIRTY.

GREAT.
YEAH.



PLENTY
OF TIME.



BATMAN
BEYOND
WILL RETURN!

"An intelligent thriller with a complex story."—AIPT

IT'S THE AMAZONS VS. THE WORLD!

Wonder Woman

The game-changing
new era
from writer
TOM KING
and artist
DANIEL SAMPERE
is just getting
started!

© & TM DC



DAWN OF
DC

PATRICK WILSON ORM IN

AQUAMAN AND THE LOST KINGDOM



Where is Orm at the start of *Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom*?

After the first film, we see Orm taken away and we assume he's going to prison. The question was where, and what kind of an underwater prison was he going to? The very cool surprise is that it's the complete opposite of an underwater prison. It's somewhere where he is deprived of water, his lifeblood. He's in a desert prison—so he is in a very, very dry, arid, lonely, sad prison.

What pushes Arthur to seek help from Orm in prison?

Arthur gets to a point where he has to seek Orm's help. Now, if you need Orm's help, you must be pretty desperate. When they figure out that Black Manta is behind some stuff, that's where Orm comes into play. Arthur knows that because Orm's the one who found Black Manta in the first place, he hopefully would know where he is now.

How do you describe the relationship between Orm and Arthur?

At the end of the last film, Orm is still Orm. He's still angry, he still carries a lot of resentment, but I think deep in there he has some respect for Arthur because he's earned the title of King. That doesn't mean that he still doesn't believe he's the rightful heir to the throne, but I think there's an understanding...we'll just say that.

Why do you think this movie is a great theatrical experience?

What I love about this movie is the humor and all those little moments that James puts in there. Like, you guys think it's funny when Topo the octopus plays the drums? Well, guess what, he's gonna be even bigger in this movie. I think it gives the movie a lightness that you can balance out with the big epic battle scenes. You need all those little funny jokes—however, the spectacle alone should get you there. Go see this in the theater!

AQUAMAN AND THE LOST KINGDOM

IN THEATERS DECEMBER 22!

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